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D STATES CHANGE COMMISSION .n, D.C. 20549

OMB Number. 3235-0123 Expires: September 30, 1998 Estimated average burden hours per response . . . 12.00

ANNUAL AUDITED REPORT CFORM X:17A:5 PART III

SEC FILE NUMBER

FEB 28 2002

**FACING PAGE** 

Information Required of Brokers and Dealers Pursuant to Section 17 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and Rule 17a-5 Thereunder

REPORT FOR THE PERIOD BEGINNING	1/1/2001 AN	D ENDING $\frac{12}{1}$	31/2001
	MM/DD/YY	М	M/DD/YY
A. RE	GISTRANT IDENTIFICATI	ON	
NAME OF BROKER-DEALER:			
•	hel Portners,	The	CIAL USE ONLY
ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUS			IRM ID. NO.
488 Madise		Hoor	
100 reamse	(No. and Street)	HOU	
New York	N	1002	_ ~
(City)	(State)	(Zip Code	
NAME AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF P.	ERSON TO CONTACT IN REG	ARD TO THIS REPORT	
Ronald Kinem	10.	(20)	446-0006
TOTAL HONE	un	(Area Code —	446-000 ( Telephone No.)
R ACC	COUNTANT IDENTIFICAT	ION	·
INDEPENDENT PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT V	- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	•	-
Radin, blass Li	o LLP ac – if individual, state lasi, first, middle namel		
(Address) 360 Lexing for	Avi 22hd	9. New Yor	K, NY 10017
(Address)	(City)	(State)	Zip Code)
CHECK ONE:			PROCESSE
Certified Public Accountant			
☐ Public Accountant ☐ Accountant not resident in United	States or any of its possessions.		MAR 2 6 2002
	FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY		THOMSON
	e, 4		FINANCIAL
	<u> </u>		

\*Claims for exemption from the requirement that the annual report be covered by the opinion of an independent public accountant must be supported by a statement of facts and circumstances relied on as the basis for the exemption. See section 240.17a-5(e)(2).

> Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently, valid OMB control number.

	-		
^	OATH OR AFFIRMATI	ON	
LA RONALD HALL	E Man/	swear (or a	ffirm) that, to the
best of my knowledge and belief the ac	companying financial statement an	d supporting schedules pertaini	ng to the firm of
Vertual Capit			as of
Dicember 31, 2000		ther swear (or affirm) that neit	
nor any partner, proprietor, principal off			
a customer, except as follows:		, <b></b>	- 1010, <b>2</b> 5 mm 0.
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		11 11111	
	V	f Signature	
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" well Dan Don	uci		, ·
Motary Public	Notary Pub	ITY SANSOUCI lic, State of New York in Ous	
		onc, State of New York 01SA6039018 in Queens County pires March 20, 20	
This report** contains (check all applica	ble boxes):	Pires March 20, 20, 20	1 .
🗷 (a) Facing page.		7-0-0-0	
(b) Statement of Financial Condition	n.	•	•
<ul><li> ⋈ (c) Statement of Income (Loss).</li><li> ⋈ (d) Statement of Changes in Finance</li></ul>	ial Candinian		
(d) Statement of Changes in Stockh		Proprietor's Capital	•
(f) Statement of Changes in Liability			
(g) Computation of Net Capital			
(h) Computation for Determination	of Reserve Requirements Pursuan	t to Rule 15c3-3.	•
(i) Information Relating to the Pos	session or control Requirements U	nder Rule 15c3-3.	*
(j). A Reconciliation, including appr	opriate explanation, of the Compu	itation of Net Capital Under Re	ule 15c3-1 and the

\*\*For conditions of confidential treatment of certain portions of this filing, see section 240.17a-5(e)(3).

solidation.

(l) An Oath or Affirmation.

(m) A copy of the SIPC Supplemental Report.

Computation for Determination of the Reserve Requirements Under Exhibit A of Rule 15c3-3.

(k) A Reconciliation between the audited and unaudited Statements of Financial Condition with respect to methods of con-

(n) A report describing any material inadequacies found to exist or found to have existed since the date of the previous audit.

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Radin, Glass & Co., LLP

Certified Public Accountants

360 Lexington Avenue New York, NY 10017 www.radinglass.com 212.557.7505 Fax: 212.557.7591

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#### INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

February 19, 2002

The Board of Directors
Vertical Capital Partners, Inc.
(Formerly Security Capital Trading, Inc.)
New York, New York

We have audited the accompanying statement of financial condition of Vertical Capital Partners, Inc. (Formerly Security Capital Trading, Inc.) as of December 31, 2001, and the related statements of operations, changes in stockholders' deficit, cash flows and changes in liabilities subordinated to claims of general creditors for the year then ended that you are filing pursuant to Rule 17a-5 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Vertical Capital Partners, Inc. (Formerly Security Capital Trading, Inc.) as of December 31, 2001, and the results of their operations and their cash flows for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The information contained in Schedules I, II, and III is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements, but is supplementary information required by Rule 17a-5 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Certified Public Accountants

## **Statement of Financial Condition**

## December 31, 2001

ASSETS		
ASSETS:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	199,212
Receivable from clearing organization		46,455
Securities owned, at market value		40,640
Furniture and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation		38,678
Other assets		96,883
TOTAL ASSETS	\$	421,868
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' DEFIC	II .	
LIABILITIES:		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$	162,057
Subordinated notes payable		400,000
Total Liabilities		562,057
STOCKHOLDERS' DEFICIT:		
Common stock, \$1 par value, 1,000 shares authorized,		
10 shares issued and outstanding		10
Additional paid-in capital		180,464
Accumulated deficit		(320,663)
Total Stockholders' Deficit	_	(140,189)
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' DEFICIT	\$	421,868

## **Statement of Operations**

REVENUES	\$	941,932
EXPENSES:		
Employee compensation and benefits		607,289
Clearing charges		203,710
Professional and underwriting fees		79,288
Data processing and quotation		17,336
Occupancy and equipment		80,825
Communication		22,238
Printing, delivery and supplies		17,312
Regulatory fees		30,307
Travel and other	<u>-</u>	79,126
TOTAL EXPENSES		1,137,431
NET LOSS	\$	(195,499)

## Statement of Changes in Stockholders' Deficit

	Comn	non S	Stock		Additional Paid-in	A	.ccumulated		
	Shares		Amount		Capital	_	Deficit	_	Total
Balance, December 31, 2000	10	\$	10	\$	117,000	\$	(125,164)	\$	(8,154)
Capital contributions					63,464				63,464
Net loss	<u> </u>		-	_	<u> </u>		(195,499)	_	(195,499)
Balance, December 31, 2001	10	\$	10	\$_	180,464	\$	(320,663)	\$_	(140,189)

## **Statement of Cash Flows**

Cash Flows from Operating Activities:	ø	(105 400)
Net loss	. \$	(195,499)
Adjustments to reconcile net loss to net cash		
provided by operating activities:		17 104
Depreciation and amortization		17,184
Changes in assets and liabilities:		60 600
Receivable from clearing organization		62,679
Deposits with and due from clearing organization		101,039
Securities owned		56,031
Other assets		(23,316)
Accounts payable and accrued expenses		(21,245)
Net Cash Used in Operating Activities	-	(3,127)
Cash Flows Used in Investing Activities:		
Purchases of furniture and equipment		(461)
	-	(102)
Cash Flows From Financing Activities:		
Captial contributions		63,464
Repayment of subordinated notes payable		(25,000)
Ropaymont of Substantista notes payable	•	(23,000)
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	_	38,464
Net Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents		34,876
Cash and Cash Equivalents, beginning	_	164,336
Cash and Cash Equivalents, ending	\$	199,212
Oute and Outer Experience, victoring	•	
Supplemental disclosures of cash flow information:		
Cash paid during the year for:		
Interest	\$	5,403
Income taxes	\$ =	1,493

## Statement of Changes in Liabilities Subordinated to Claims of General Creditors

Subordinated notes at January 1, 2000	\$ 425,000
Increases: Issuance of subordinated notes Decreases:	-
Subordinated note expired	 (25,000)
Subordinated notes at December 31, 2001	\$ 400,000

#### **Notes to Financial Statements**

#### 1. <u>BUSINESS AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES</u>

A. <u>Description of business</u> - Vertical Capital Partners, Inc. (Formerly Security Capital Trading, Inc.) (the "Company") is registered as a broker/dealer in securities under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and is a member of the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. The Company acts as an underwriter on a firm commitment basis. As a broker, the Company acts as an agent through a clearing broker on behalf of its customers on a fully disclosed basis.

During the year ended December 31, 2001, the Company changed its name from Security Capital Trading, Inc. to Vertical Capital Partners, Inc.

B. <u>Securities</u> - All securities transactions (and related commission revenue and expense) are recorded in the financial statements on a trade date basis.

Marketable securities are valued at market value and securities not readily marketable are valued at fair value as determined by the Company. The resulting unrealized gains and losses are included in the statement of operations.

- C. <u>Furniture and Equipment</u> Furniture and equipment are stated at cost. Depreciation is calculated using an accelerated method over the estimated useful lives of the assets.
- D. <u>Use of Estimates</u> The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.
- E. <u>Income Taxes</u> The Company accounts for income taxes under the asset and liability method. Deferred taxes are recognized for the future tax consequences attributable to the differences between the financial statement and tax basis of assets and liabilities, measured at the tax rates expected to apply to taxable income when the temporary differences are expected to be recovered or settled.
- F. Fair Value of Financial Instruments The carrying amounts reported in the balance sheet for cash, receivables, and accrued expenses approximate fair value based on the short-term maturity of these instruments.
- G. <u>Impairment of Long Lived Assets</u> The Company reviews long-lived assets, certain identifiable assets and any goodwill related to those assets for impairment whenever circumstances and situations change such that there is an indication that the carrying amounts may not be recoverable. At December 31, 2001, the Company believes that there has been no impairment of its long-lived assets.

#### 2. <u>SECURITIES OWNED</u>

Securities owned consist of \$40,640 of common stock of various publicly held companies.

#### Notes to Financial Statements

#### 3. FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT

Furniture and equipment consist of the following at December 31, 2001:

Furnitu	re and fixtures	\$	20,562
Machin	ery and equipment		68,626
		-	89,188
Less:	Accumulated depreciation		50,510
		\$ _	38,678

#### 4. <u>SUBORDINATED NOTES PAYABLE</u>

Subordinated notes payable of December 31, 2001 is as follows:

Subordinated Loans	Interest rate	Maturity Date
200,000	4.5%	April 30, 2002
100,000	4.0%	March 31, 2003
100,000	4.0%	December 31, 2003

These notes, in part, are due to related parties and are not collateralized.

#### 5. <u>NET CAPITAL REQUIREMENTS</u>

The Company is subject to the SEC Uniform Net Capital Rule 15c-1, which requires the maintenance of minimum net capital and requires that the ratio of aggregate indebtedness to net capital, both as defined, shall not exceed 15 to 1. Net capital and the related aggregate indebtedness ratio may fluctuate on a daily basis. At December 31, 2001, the Company had net capital of \$118,154, which was \$18,154 above its required net capital of \$100,000. The Company's aggregate indebtedness to net capital ratio was 1.37 to 1.

#### 6. CLEARING BROKER INDEMNIFICATION

In the normal course of business, customers may sell securities short. Subsequent market fluctuations may require the clearing broker to obtain additional collateral from the Company's customers. It is the policy of the clearing broker to value the short positions daily and to obtain additional deposits where deemed appropriate. The Company has agreed to indemnify its clearing broker for losses that the clearing broker may sustain from the customer accounts introduced by the Company.

#### Notes to Financial Statements

#### FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS WITH OFF-BALANCE SHEET RISK

In the normal course of business, the Company may enter into security sales transactions as principal. If the securities subject to such transactions are not in the possession of the Company (for example, securities loaned to other brokers or dealers used as collateral for bank loans or failed to receive), the Company may incur a loss if the security is not received and the market value has increased over the contract amount of the transactions. The Company had no such transactions outstanding as of December 31, 2001.

In the normal course of business, the Company may execute, as agent, transactions on behalf of customers. If the agency transactions do not settle because of failure to perform by either the customer or the counterparty, the Company may be obligated to discharge the obligation of the non-performing party and, as a result, may incur a loss if the market value of the security is different from the contract amount of the transactions.

The Company does not anticipate nonperformance by customers or counter-parties in the above situations. The Company's policy is to monitor its market exposure and counter-party risk.

#### 8. <u>INCOME TAXES – NET OPERATING LOSS</u>

At December 31, 2001, the Company has a net operating loss ("NOL") carry forward of approximately \$265,000 available to offset its future income tax liability. The NOL will expire at various years through 2021. The related tax asset has been offset by a valuation allowance.

#### 9. <u>ARBITRATIONS</u>

The Company is subject to three arbitrations arising in the ordinary course of its business. The Company does not believe that any such arbitrations is likely, individually or in the aggregate, to have a material adverse effect on the financial condition of the Company.

## Computation of Net Capital Under Rule 15c3-1

## December 31, 2001

December 31, 2001	
Total stockholders' deficit from statement of financial condition	\$ (140,189)
Other credits:	
Subordinated notes	400,000
Deduction and/or charges:	
Total non-allowable assets	(135,561)
Net capital before haircuts	124,250
Haircuts on securities:	
Trading and investment securities:	6,096
Net capital	\$118,154
Greater of:	
Minimum net capital required - 6 2/3% total aggregate	
indebtedness of \$162,057, pursuant to Rule 15c3-1	\$10,804
Minimum dollar net capital requirement of reporting	
broker/dealer	\$100,000
Net capital requirement	\$100,000
Former and conital	T 10.154
Excess net capital	\$18,154
Excess net capital at 1,000%, as defined	\$101,948
Items included in statement of financial condition:	
Accounts payable, accrued expenses and other liabilities	\$162,057
Total aggregate indebtedness	\$ 162,057
rom: appropule maconomics	102,037
Ratio: aggregate indebtedness to net capital	1.37

## Reconciliation of Net Capital Under Rule 15c3-1

## December 31, 2001

Reconciliation of the computation of net capital pursuant to Rule 15c3-1 with the corresponding computation contained in the unaudited Part II filing of Form X-17A-5		
Net capital per computation contained in Part IIA of Form X-17A-5		\$ 113,395
Decrease in non-allowable assets		9,203
Adjustment on hair cut calculation		4,661
Net audit adjustments	•	 (9,105)
Net capital per audited report		\$ 118,154

### Information Relating to the Possession or Control Requirements Under Rule 15c3-3

December 31, 2001

The Company claims exemption from the requirements of Rule 15c3-3, under Section (k)(2)(ii) of the Rule.

VERTICAL CAPITAL PARTNERS, INC. (Formerly Security Capital Trading, Inc.)

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

## Radin, Glass & Co., LLP

Certified Public Accountants

360 Lexington Avenue New York, NY 10017 www.radinglass.com 212.557.7505 Fax: 212.557.7591

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February 19, 2002

Board of Directors
Vertical Capital Partners, Inc.
(Formerly Security Capital Trading, Inc.)
New York, New York

In Planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of Vertical Capital Partners, Inc. (Formerly Security Capital Trading, Inc.) (the "Company"), for the year ended December 31, 2001, we considered it's internal control, including control activities for safeguarding securities, in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the consolidated financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control.

Also, as required by rule 17a-5(g)(1) of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), we have made a study of the practices and procedures followed by the Company, including tests of compliance with such practices and procedures that we considered relevant to the objectives stated in rule 17a-5(g), in the following:

- 1. Making the periodic computations of aggregate indebtedness (or aggregate debits) and net capital under rule 17a-3(a)(11).
- 2. We did not perform the procedures that are indicated for the quarterly securities examinations, the prompt payment for securities or the physical control as these procedures are applicable to the clearing broker.

The management of the Company is responsible for establishing and maintaining an internal control and the practices and procedures referred to in the preceding paragraph. In fulfilling this responsibility, estimates and judgments by management are required to assess the expected benefits and related costs of controls, and of the practices and procedures referred to in the preceding paragraph, and to assess whether those practices and procedures can be expected to achieve the SEC's above-mentioned objectives. Two of the objectives of internal control and the practices and procedures are to provide management with reasonable but not absolute assurance that assets for which the Company has responsibility are safeguarded against loss from unauthorized use or disposition, and that transactions are executed in accordance with management's authorization and recorded properly to permit the preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Rule 17a-5(g) lists additional objectives of the practices and procedures listed in the preceding paragraph.

Because of inherent limitations in internal control or the practices and procedures referred to above, error or fraud may occur and not be detected. Also, projection of any evaluation of them to future periods is subject to the risk that they may become inadequate because of changes in conditions or that the effectiveness of their design and operation may deteriorate. Our consideration of internal control would not necessarily disclose all matters in internal control that might be material weaknesses under standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of the specific internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that error or fraud in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. However, we noted no matters involving internal control, including control activities for safeguarding securities, that we consider to by material weaknesses as defined above.

We understand that practices and procedures that accomplish the objectives referred to in the second paragraph of this report are considered by the SEC to be adequate for its purposes in accordance with the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and related regulations, and that practices and procedures that do not accomplish such objectives in all material respects indicate a material inadequacy for such purposes. Based on this understanding and on our study, we believe that the Company's practices and procedures were adequate at December 31, 2001, to meet the Commission's objectives.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Board of Directors, management, the SEC and other regulatory agencies that rely on rule 17a-5(g) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 in their regulation of registered brokers and dealers, and is not intended to be and should not be used for anyone other than specified parties.

Certified Public Accountants

# VERTICAL CAPITAL PARTNERS, INC. (Formerly Security Capital Trading, Inc.)

### **FINANCIALSTATEMENTS**

Year Ended December 31, 2001